

EMPLOYEE SURVEY ON VAN POOLING

1. This country currently faces the most serious energy crisis in its history. One of the most effective means of dealing with a part of this crisis is through the Share-A-Ride Program known more commonly as van pooling. Simply stated, a van pool is a group of from 10-15 persons who share a vehicle from home to work, and return, each day. There is a driver-coordinator and an alternate to drive the vehicle, set-up routes, and collect fees. The advantages from van pooling are many - preferred parking, economical transportation, exemption from the odd-even gasoline purchasing plan, high priority in the event of gasoline rationing, and relief from the everyday hassles of driving. Added advantages to the driver-coordinator would be free transportation back and forth to work and dependent upon the method of obtaining the van, use of the vehicle at night and on the weekends at minimal cost. In addition, each van pool has the potential of removing as many as 14 vehicles from our highways. This action would result in a significant reduction of fuel consumed as well as reducing pollution and decreasing traffic congestion, especially during rush hours.

2. Purchasing a van most certainly requires an investment of personal funds although the Credit Union normally finances 100% of the purchase price up to \$15,000. Direct leasing, on the other hand, would only require a bond. There is a non-profit organization, established with federal funds, located in the State of Maryland that leases vehicles for van pooling. This company is not authorized to operate in the ^{Commonwealth} ~~State~~ of Virginia. They provide the van, arrange for insurance and special licenses that might be required, and will normally enter into a leasing agreement that could be terminated in 30 days. There is no investment of funds required by the members of the van pool.

3. Although there is no leasing company currently established in ~~the State of~~ Virginia, a strong response from Virginia residents would provide sufficient incentive to approach appropriate state and local officials to encourage their support. Before proceeding further, we must determine the degree of employee interest in such a program.

4. Each individual must be mindful that certain covert CIA employees may be prevented from becoming active members of a van pool if they are required to place their names on a roster of van pool participants. Further, they may not be able to participate in van pools, if their identity with an organization or a destination is incompatible with their cover.

5. If you are interested in participating in van pooling (including residents of Maryland and District of Columbia), please complete the attached questionnaire and return it to Room 1J45 Headquarters on or before 19 October 1979. You may call extension 5245 if any questions arise.

Attachment